

School Board Reaffirms Plan to Seek Navy Property

EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

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COUNCIL CURBS POWER OF MAYOR

Appointment Rule Altered

A majority of the city council this week voted to strip Mayor Albert Isen of his authority for making appointments to boards and commissions of the city as a climax to a running battle which has marked council actions for nearly five years.

The situation, which had reached the boiling point several times during the past year, spewed over Tuesday night when the council voted 5-2 to support a proposal made by Willys Blount that the authority to appoint commission members be rotated among members of the council.

"YOU FELLOWS are going to be the laughing stock of Southern California," Isen said after the roll had been taken on Blount's motion. Only Isen and Victor Benstead opposed it.

"It's kind of rough being the mayor of a city of 100,000 when you have five eager beavers jumping on your back," he said.

In proposing the new procedure, Blount said it "would dispense with the so-called patronage system, would be fair to all councilmen, and would give fair representation to all of the city."

ISEN DEFENDED the system whereby he made all nominations subject to the approval of a majority of the councilmen.

"You'll find my appointments nonpolitical," he said. "You talk about principle here, but you vote for men on your political team and vote against others as a matter of principle," he said.

"Your system will be a hodge-podge . . . a vicious political spoils system," Isen added.

Councilman J. A. Beasley broke in, saying he "took exception to the spoils system charge." Beasley went to defend the names he had offered to Isen as various vacancies occurred on the commissions.

THE DEJECTED mayor suggested that maybe his job should be rotated also.

"I spend about 40 per cent of my time on this job and I get \$100 a month just like the rest of you," he said.

He added that he would put his record against any councilman "or any conspiracy of you councilmen," before the voters.

"I suggest, Mr. Blount, that instead of this you run for mayor," Isen said.

"YOU MIGHT be surprised at the number of people who may try," Blount retorted.

An amendment to the present ordinance on the procedure was ordered which would give each of the seven members of the council his turn in naming commissioners as the terms expire. A commissioner so appointed by a councilman could be removed only by five-sevenths vote of the council.

Tuesday's action by the council majority was probably the worst political defeat suffered by Isen since he was elected to the post by a direct vote of the people in 1958.

IN OTHER action, the council voted to defer an order to place the city's water department under the jurisdiction of the department of public works. The action was taken on the recommendation of city manager George Stevens.

The council also held for further study, a proposed ordinance which would amend Civil Service rules relating to holidays, vacations, sick leaves,

and other personnel matters.

ALSO DELAYED was a council order that Gilbert D. Sellan move an \$85,000 building which has been constructed with a corner on city property at the southwest corner of Newton St. and Loytan St. The delay was granted at the request of Mayor Isen who wanted to inspect the area.

Money to support the city's share of the 1960 Powder Puff Derby costs — \$1000 — was voted by the council. The annual air race will leave from Torrance Municipal Airport next July.

At TEAC

Panelists To Discuss Discipline

Five viewpoints on the problems of discipline will be featured at the October meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee at the YWCA next Monday noon.

Offering the different viewpoints will be James Miller, parent and president of the Seaside PTA; Officer H. B. Ingram of the Torrance Police Department's juvenile bureau; James Armstrong, Howard Wood, teacher; Don Mulaney, principal of Wood school; and Richard Hubert, welfare and attendance supervisor for the district.

Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent for special services and research, will moderate the panel discussion. A report on school construction will be given by S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent, according to Mrs. Otto B. Willett, moderator of the organization.

Gardner Killed In Spill

A landscape gardener working on a new housing project here was crushed Tuesday afternoon when a tractor and skip-loader he was operating on a steep grade overturned on him.

Killed was Joseph Volk, 55, of 15242 Atkinson Ave., Gardena, who tried to leap from the tractor when it started tipping, but was caught by the blade of the loader.

The accident occurred along Emerald St. west of Henrietta Ave., police said. He was taken to Harbor General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Louie Armstrong At Harbor Tech

Jazz musician Louis Armstrong, his all-star quintet, and featured vocalist Velma Middleton, will present a two-hour concert in the Harbor College men's gymnasium tonight.

The public is being invited to attend. Tickets are selling for \$1.50 and may be purchased now at the college finance office or at the door.

Cite Savings To Taxpayers

A reaffirmation of its intentions to seek Navy surplus land to expand Torrance High School facilities and as a possible site for a fifth high school was voiced by the board of education here Tuesday night.

Acquisition of the 26½ acres of surplus U.S. Navy land for school use might save Torrance taxpayers between half a million and \$700,000, the board was told.

Governmental or educational units have a high priority for acquiring such government surplus land, and the school district would be able to obtain it at a fraction of its market cost.

IF A HIGH school were located on the site, no child would have to be taken to school by bus, the board was told.

Acting to get the land now would save money, administrators said. The site, located north of Sepulveda and east of Crenshaw Blvd., could be used to house presently crowded Torrance High athletic facilities and other high school activities.

The plan to acquire the property for school purposes has been under fire because of its proximity to the present Torrance High School site. Chairman Bert Lynn of the planning commission has suggested that the site be used for an industrial research center.

Elected to serve with Noel on the 1960 board were Tommy Wilkes, first vice president; H. G. "Steve" Stephens, second vice president; and C. J. "Clint" Meadway, treasurer.

The secretary is appointed by the president. Named to the board of directors for two-year terms were W. H. "Pop" Haslam; Ted Meier, Dean Sears and Dr. Alden Smith.

The club meets each Monday night at Caprino's in downtown Torrance.

Gun Victim To Survive

A 39-year-old Torrance man who accidentally shot himself with a .32 caliber automatic pistol was reportedly "doing fine" at Harbor General Hospital yesterday.

Det. Sgt. Myles Hamilton said Douglas Frank Drobeck, 18201 Prairie Ave., was found late Saturday wandering near his trailer home by a friend who took him to a private doctor. He was described as critical after the incident. The bullet struck him in the right temple.

Torrance Man Dies In Crash

Killed in Los Angeles Sunday when his auto collided with another at 120th and Hoover Sts. was 66-year-old William McKinley Weaver, 21110 Dalton Ave.

Police said the Weaver auto went through a red light and was struck by a car driven by William M. McCrae, 29, of Denver.

Weaver's car was knocked sideways into a stop signal, and he was thrown from the car into the street. He was pronounced dead at the scene. McCrae was not injured, and police did not hold him.



NO. 1 FAN . . . Miss Mable Conger displays pennant she waved while rooting for "her team" the Dodgers, during the World Series in Los Angeles. The retired Torrance woman saw her first series game at the age of 76 after buying a season ticket. (Herald Photo)

'A Once in a Lifetime' Dream Comes True at 76

"I've always been a baseball fan, but this is the first time I ever saw a world's series game. It was once in a lifetime." So spoke Miss Mabel Conger, 76, as she recalled the home series games played in the Coliseum between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Chicago White Sox.

"I am the spirit of '76," Miss Conger said with a twinkle in her eyes as she sat in the living room of her apartment at 1681 Gramercy. "I saw the Cardinals play in St. Louis when I lived in Topeka, Kans., but I never thought I

would get to see a world series game, but here I am and I saw all of the home games—I even bought a season ticket. I told my friends that if I didn't die of a heart attack after the first game, I would be there for them all."

MISS CONGER is a retired employee of a dental supply house in Topeka and moved to Torrance after she left her employment 15 years ago. When asked about the Dodgers playing she said that they "played magnificently" and were not in there just for the money.

Commenting about the last same period a year ago,

game of the series, Miss Conger told the HERALD reporter that "her team" didn't coordinate and that the right batter was not up to bring in the winning run.

"But the Dodgers were playing for the pennant all the way," the No. 1 Dodger fan added as she held up a Dodger pennant flag.

City Gets Larger Sales Tax Return

Third quarter sales and use tax distributions reported this week revealed that Torrance will receive \$215,837, as compared to \$156,127 for the

same period a year ago.

Rites Saturday

Walteria Civic Leader Frank W. Hunter Dies

Frank W. Hunter, 56, active in many Walteria organizations and president of the Walteria Kiwanis Club, died yesterday at Riviera Hospital following a short illness.

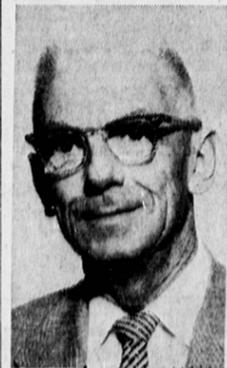
Mr. Hunter, who was a candidate for the city treasurer's office here in the 1958 municipal elections, has been a salesman for Sears for 25 years and was employed at the Sears-Hollywood at the time of his death. He resided at 2604 Dalemead in Walteria.

In addition to his work with the Walteria Kiwanis Club, Mr. Hunter was a member of the Lomita Masonic Lodge, Walteria Business Men's Club, Methodist Men's Club, and the Walteria Methodist Church.

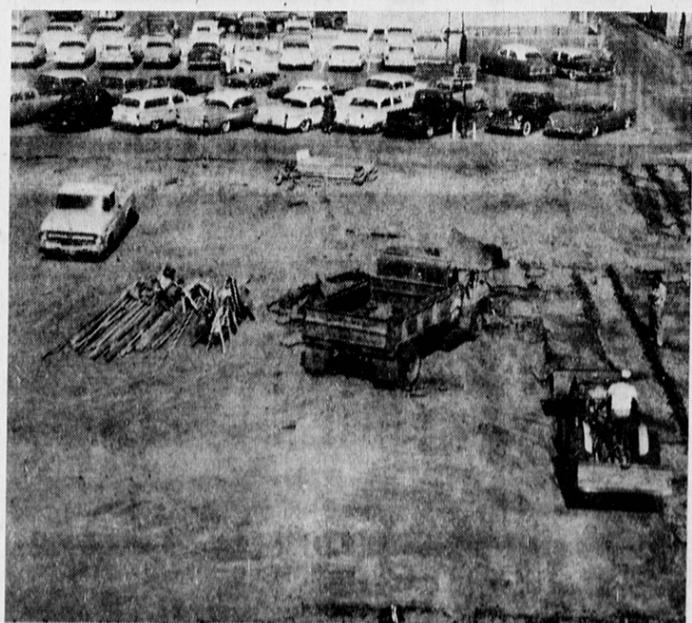
He was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and had resided in Torrance for the past seven years.

Mr. Hunter is survived by his widow, Mary; a daughter, Mrs. Elaine Nixon; and a son, Howard W. Hunter, all of Walteria; a sister, Mrs. William B. Nixon of Pennsylvania, and four grandsons.

Funeral services will be held at the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel Saturday afternoon at 2, with the Rev. David Beadles officiating. Burial will be in Green Hills Memorial Park.



FRANK W. HUNTER . . . Civic Leader Dies



PROJECT STARTED . . . Workmen began clearing the ground this week for a new State of California building to be constructed at the corner of Engracia Ave. and Cravens Ave. When completed next year, the building will house local state offices, including the Department of Employment, and the offices of Assemblyman Vincent Thomas. (Herald Photo)

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What do you think is the greatest invention of all time?" is the question the "Penny Photographer" asked five members of the Student Council of Torrance high school this week.

Roy Yanase: "I think the greatest invention of all time is the jet-powered airplane as used in travel and transportation. I think the most wonderful thing of our age is to be able to eat breakfast over Los Angeles and lunch in New York City."

Cinda Williams: "The telephone, to my way of thinking, is the most wonderful and the greatest invention of all. I think to have a contact with others that is as close as our desk makes the telephone outstanding. The comfort of having a telephone in time of trouble is also important."

Marcell Cook: "I think the wheel is the most important and the greatest invention of all time. This is not original, of course, but I certainly agree that it is. The wheel did more to advance transportation than any other item and is the basis of all transportation."

Jack Singer: "I think the scientific research behind all inventions more important than the resulting inventions. Without research there would be no progress in developing ideas. Besides I feel that the field of inventions is too broad to single out one as the greatest."

Susan Hammach: "I will vote for the automobile as the greatest invention of all time. Without it we would still move at the horse and buggy pace and I think that progress itself may be linked to the automobile."

'Anza Addition Voted

Another four-classroom addition will be built soon at Anza Elementary School, the Torrance Board of Education decided Tuesday night as it authorized calling for bids.

The addition is being rushed because of large enrollments in the area. A four-classroom addition currently is being